



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



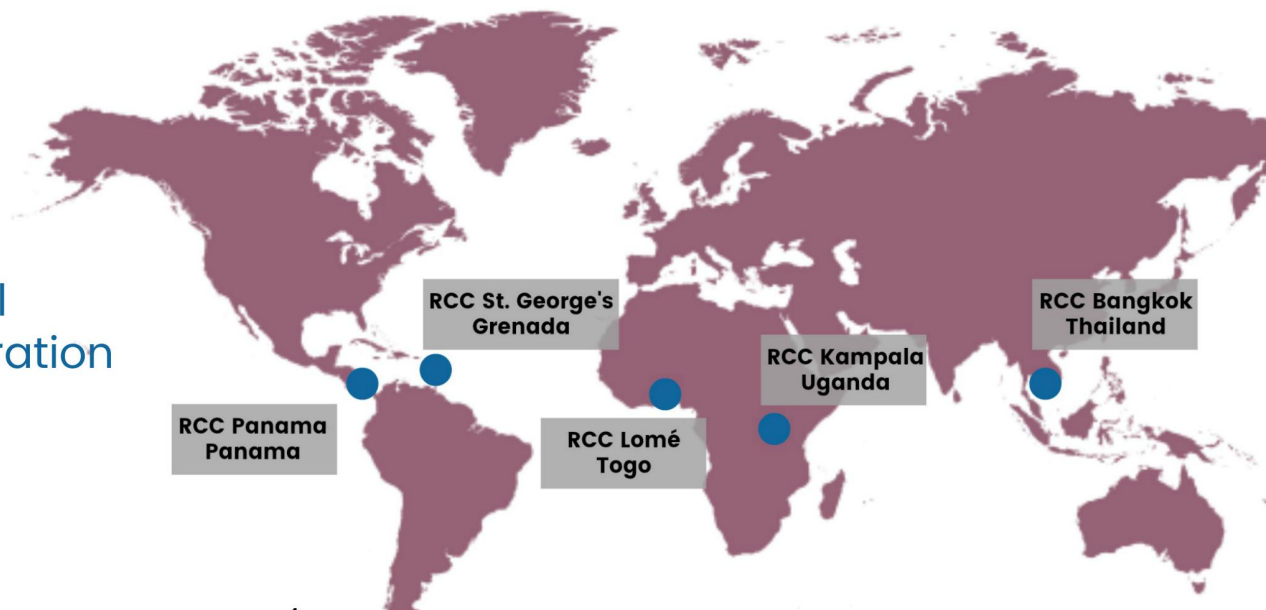
Regional Collaboration Centres

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

BACKGROUND

The secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (the "Convention"), the Paris Agreement, and the Kyoto Protocol engages in mutually beneficial collaborative partnerships with non-Party stakeholders, including the private sector.

5 Regional Collaboration Centres



The Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC)¹ initiative was established to support participation of under-represented countries in the clean development mechanism (CDM). Since the adoption of the Paris Agreement in December 2015, while the RCCs have continued to support the CDM, the scope of their work has expanded to include supporting countries in the development and implementation of their plans to address climate change, which are called Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

The expanded scope of RCC support has enabled the establishment of a globally oriented and regionally available network of stakeholders, which has the ability to connect and align the regional response to climate change with the global agenda. RCCs operate in collaboration with regional partners to leverage on the ground expertise.

UNFCCC RCC's on the Ground

RCC Lomé	West African Development Bank	January, 2013	RCCLome@unfccc.int
RCC Kampala	East African Development Bank	July, 2013	RCCKampala@unfccc.int
RCC St. George's	Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation	May, 2013	RCCStgeorges@unfccc.int
RCC Bangkok	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies	September, 2015	RCCBangkok@unfccc.int
RCC Panama ²	Development Bank of Latin America	March, 2017	RCCPanama@unfccc.int

KEY RESULTS

2017 Achievements

NDC Implementation

Regional NDC Coordinators were placed in RCC locations worldwide and supported by RCCs. Work started in Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and St. Lucia to develop Partnership Plans for NDC implementation.

Green Investment Catalyst (GIC)³

RCCs implemented the GIC process in the African region which is aimed at contributing to market transformation, scale, increased private sector investment and finance for nationally determined contribution (NDC) implementation. The Africap GIC catalysed finance platforms, funds, green investment banks, green bond programmes, and project finance (west, southern Africa, APAC etc.).

Support was provided in cooperation with a range of partners and more countries are requesting a GIC.

Capacity-building

RCCs continued to provide capacity-building support to a wide range of stakeholders, including designated national authorities (DNAs), to promote the use of the CDM as a tool for monitoring, reporting and verifying (MRV) emission reductions, as well as to monitor sustainable development co-benefits of CDM project activities and programmes of activities (PoAs). In 2017, RCCs co-organized **19** capacity-building events in the form of training, workshop and webinar with the participation of **438** stakeholders including DNAs. RCC provided technical support to **278** project activities and PoAs and **30** standardized baselines.

Collaborative Instruments for Ambitious Climate Action (CI-ACA)⁴

RCCs provided capacity-building support and conducted national consultations on the consideration of carbon pricing instruments in the Dominican Republic, Panama and Pakistan. Furthermore, the RCCs are working at a regional level on this subject as well, specifically with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries on developing a harmonized approach to MRV for the region. As a next step, funded specific studies are set to explore carbon pricing approaches which could support domestic NDC implementation and be suited to the national context.

Asia-Pacific Climate Week

The Asia-Pacific Climate Week with support from RCC culminated in a Regional Climate Action Agenda that will strengthen regional cooperation among state and non-state stakeholders to: promote more ambition prior to 2020 in key economic sectors; promote take-up of carbon pricing instruments and policies; ensure better transboundary data collection; and improve access to finance.

Partnerships

The delivery of the workplans has often taken place through joint implementation with other UN agencies and institutions. RCCs have also been particularly successful in mobilizing resources both from international donors and regional entities which guaranteed a very high return of investment.

Notable partnerships:



Benefits RCCs Bring to the Region



Generating local technical capacity on the CDM, market mechanisms and cooperative approaches



Promoting new partnerships to make climate action more efficient by ensuring synergies while avoiding duplication of efforts on the ground



Acting as logistic hubs for organization of regional events enabling cost-saving and improved outreach to local stakeholders



Leveraging communication and outreach through direct and targeted interaction with stakeholders



Promoting finance for climate through the organization of trainings, the dissemination of information as well as match-making between funding organizations and stakeholders involved in activities which are supported by finance for climate



A regional presence has helped to gather intelligence and identify gaps and barriers to overcome for effective NDC implementation



RCC support to regional and national activities has been seen as a value add by donors and other UN agencies which are regularly providing additional funds to deliver new projects or to co-organise new activities

WORKPLAN 2018

The 2018 RCC workplan comprises of five goals and is in line with the vision "to be the regional presence of the UNFCCC secretariat which catalyze, leverage and support local and regional actions across the secretariat's substantive areas of work using a network of global reach to forge and maintain effective partnerships which ensure that the UNFCCC process is aligned with the needs of those engaged in accelerating action to address climate change".

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The steering committee for each RCC conducts regular assessments of the performance against the pre-defined objectives and takes necessary actions to continuously improve the performance and operation of the centre. These improvements are generally reflected in updated version of the centre's workplan.

In 2015 an independent evaluation of RCCs was launched. The report⁵ confirmed that the RCCs are effective in delivering against their mandate. At the same time the evaluation identified areas of improvement of the initiative and provided a series of recommendations on how to improve the RCCs in particular with reference to the Monitoring and Evaluation system, communication and outreach activities, reporting to the Board and expansion of the role. These recommendations are already taken onboard.

RCC performance is reported biannually⁶ to the CDM-EB and annually⁷ to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP). RCCs publish newsletters regularly on individual RCC websites⁸ to keep regional stakeholders informed of the latest RCC activities.

5 Goals for 2018



NOTES

- <https://unfccc.int/about-us/regional-collaboration-centres>
- Formerly RCC Bogotá which was established in August 2015.
- GICs aim to support the development of a pool of bankable green (including CDM) projects, funds, facilities, green banks or investment frameworks in a specific country/region. The objective is to build platforms to help countries to access public and private sector finance, while, strengthening a country's green growth policies, implementation of NDCs, LEDS as well as leveraging structures that can grow domestic green capital markets.
- CIACA initiative assist Parties in the development of carbon pricing approaches for implementing their Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement. More information available at < https://unfccc.int/files/secretariat/regional_collaboration_centres/application/pdf/rcc_collaborative_instruments_brochure_eng_final.pdf>
- <http://cdm.unfccc.int/UserManagement/FileStorage/HGS6JO0Z1E9TLDAN354PQ2FRIMCKBW>
- <https://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/report/>
- http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/EB_CMP_rep/index.html
- <https://unfccc.int/about-us/regional-collaboration-centres>

Photo credit: Mukesh Dewatwal | CDM Changing Lives International Photo Contest 2012